

Message Text

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ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 AGR-05 INT-05 EB-07 OES-03

DLOS-03 TRSE-00 /081 W

----- 019743

R 130905Z JAN 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5109

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1083

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, IC, GW, UK

SUBJECT: FISHERIES DISPUTE: GOI COOL TO FRG NEGOTIATIONS BID;
NEW INCIDENT AT SEA

1. FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON YESTERDAY CONFIRMED WIRE SERVICE REPORTS THAT HE HAD RECEIVED WEST GERMAN INVITATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS TO GO TO BONN AT EARLY DATE TO RESUME TALKS AIMED AT ENDING FISHERIES DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. AGUSTSSON WAS CITED IN LOCAL PRESS AS SAYING THAT GOI HAD NOT TAKEN POSITION ON PROPOSAL, SINCE IT WAS NOT CLEAR THAT NEW TALKS WOULD BEAR RESULTS. HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN GOI WOULD DECIDE ON REPLY TO FRG BID.

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2. YESTERDAY ALSO SAW FIRST INCIDENT AT SEA
STEMMING FROM ICELAND-FRG DISPUTE SINCE FIRING ON
AND SEIZING OF GERMAN TRAWLER ARCTURUS LAST NOVEMBER
AS ICELANDIC COAST GUARD SHIP CUT TRAWLS OF FRG
VESSEL ALLEGED FOUND FISHING 22 MILES INSIDE CLAIMED
50-MILE ZONE. DEPSEC GEN OF JUSTICE MINISTRY (WHICH
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COAST GUARD) TOLD EMBOFF THAT IN-
CIDENT REPRESENTED NO (RPT NO) NEW GOI APPROACH BUT
SIMPLY REFLECTED ONGOING EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE
FRG FISHING INSIDE 50 MILES BY MOST APPROPRIATE MEANS.
USUALLY, HE SAID, THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED BY ISSUING
WARNING, BUT STRONGER MEASURES WILL BE EMPLOYED AS
NECESSARY. HE NOTED THAT PERIOD HAS BEEN DIFFICULT
AND OFTEN TENSE ONE FOR COAST GUARD, WHICH IS ENJOINED
TO EXPEL POACHERS WHILE STILL STOPPING SHORT OF PRO-
VOKING COUNTERMEASURES THAT COULD ESCALATE TO DAN-
GEROUS CLASHES. OFFICIAL ADDED THAT, CONTRARY
TO SOME INDICATIONS IN LOCAL PRESS, THERE HAS BEEN
LITTLE SLACKENING IN GERMAN FISHING INSIDE 50 MILES
SINCE SEIZURE OF ARCTURUS.

3. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL PRESS REPORTED
PROMINENTLY TODAY COMPLAINTS OF ICELANDIC FISHERMEN
THAT BRITISH TRAWLERS HAVE BEEN "AGGRESSIVELY" SAIL-
ING ACROSS AND CUTTING STATIONARY FISHING LINES SET
OUT BY ICELANDERS. BRITISH, IN SAME ACCOUNTS, SAY
INCIDENTS WERE ACCIDENTAL AND CAUSED BY BAD WEATHER
AND POOR VISIBILITY. THERE HAS BEEN NO (RPT NO)
GOI COMMENT ON THESE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST BRITISH
TRAWLERS.
IRVING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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